

E911 Wireless Service Board Meeting
Thursday, March 27, 2008
10:00 AM - CESC

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| Members Present: | Lem Stewart, Chairman Linda Cage David Von Moll Captain John Furlough Sheriff Fred Newman | Robert Woltz, Jr. – Co-Chairman Phil Heins Pat Shumate Denise Smith Bobby McAvoy |
| Members Absent | Fred Vincent Chief Ed Frankenstein Bob Layman | Battalion Chief Tracey Hanger Chief Ron Mastin |
| Remote | Southwest Virginia Northwest Virginia | Roanoke |
| Grant Committee Present: | Bill Agee | |
| Staff Present: | Dorothy Spears-Dean, Coordinator Jerry Simonoff, ITIES Director Terry Mayo, Board Administrative Assistant | Steve Marzolf, ISP Director Samuel Keys, Regional Coordinator |

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Lem Stewart called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

2. APPROVAL OF JANUARY MINUTES

Mr. Stewart called for approval of the January 30, 2008 minutes as written. Sheriff Fred Newman made a motion that the minutes be approved for January, and Mr. David Von Moll seconded the motion. The motion was approved; **10-0-0**.

3. FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Spears-Dean gave the Board a recap of the Financial Report for February 8, 2008. The new fund balance is \$16,596,190.59 (see attachment). The total expenditures were \$35,895,193.40. Mr. Stewart asked for questions and input from the Board, and there were none.

4. CMRS MONTHLY STATUS SUMMARY

Ms. Spears-Dean addressed the Board and referred them to the monthly status summary. Ms. Spears-Dean informed the Board that a lot of progress has been made. Ms. Spears-Dean said that there are four Phase I and thirty Phase II deployments remaining. The Phase II deployments will be decreasing again next month with the consolidation of Poquoson and York taking place. Mr. Sam Keys addressed the Board and said that the Regional Coordinators have found that a lot of the Phase II deployments had not yet been reported, and that the Regional Coordinators are working to clean up some of the discrepancies.

5. PBX/MLTS LEGISLATION

Sam Keys addressed the Board and said he has been working on the PBX/MLTS legislation. He informed the Board that the perception is that it is the responsibility of the Board to oversee this legislation, and that he is not sure of what the impact will be on the Board. Mr. Keys also informed the Board that he is not sure of the interpretation of the language of this “bill,” and that he is asking the Board for permission to get its Legal Representative to give some input.

Mr. Stewart asked for questions and comments from the Board, and offered his thoughts on the issue. Mr. Stewart said he thought Mr. Keys raised a good point, and that staff will ask the Attorney General’s Office to look into the language and provide assistance on the “bill.” Mr. Marzolf said the community is looking to the E911 Wireless Service Board for guidance.

Mr. Stewart asked if there were any more comments or questions, and there were none.

6. UPCOMING PSAP GRANT PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

Ms. Spears-Dean briefed the Board and advised them and the PSAP community that the grant awards are being drafted. The funding for those grant awards will be available after July 2008. Ms. Spears-Dean also informed the Board that the next meeting of the E911 Wireless PSAP Grant Committee will be on April 9 and 10, 2008 at the Commonwealth Enterprise Solutions Center. The findings at that meeting will be reported at the May 22, 2008 meeting. Ms. Spears-Dean also informed the Board that to assist the Committee on April 9th and 10th that some more tools have been developed. The new tools are: GIS-Related Grant Request Priority Matrix, Radio-Related Grant Request Priority Matrix, and Compendium for Communication Grants. The GIS Matrix was developed by Chris Hardesty and Lyle Hornbaker of the ISP staff. Other staff members are responsible for developing the other tools. At the May 22nd meeting, staff will be bringing FY08 PSAP Grants extensions to the Board for review. And finally, Ms. Spears-Dean announced that the PSAP Grant Committee would be tackling something new: assisting VDEM in reviewing applications for Community Alert Systems. Mr. Stewart asked for comments and discussions. Mr. Mike Cline revisited the VDEM request, and said that the potential amount available from both the DHS

and NWS was \$6,000,000. This new direction may have much broader implications.

Mr. Stewart called for a motion in the support of VDEM's request. Mr. Robert Woltz, Jr. made a motion to accept the motion, and Captain John Furlough seconded the motion. All approved: **10-0-0**.

7. RECENT RECALC OF WIRELESS FUNDING DISTRIBUTION PERCENTAGE

Ms. Spears-Dean informed the Board that the wireless distribution needs to be recalculated every October, and then she briefed the Board members on how the recalculations came about. Ms. Spears-Dean also thanked the VGIN Staff for providing the maps depicting the distribution. Ms. Spears-Dean said that FY07 was the first year with the new funding methodology, and that the impact was not really seen until FY08. Ms. Spears-Dean also emphasized that the Wireless Fund only has so much money in it, and of the 127 primary PSAPs included in the recalculation of the wireless funding distribution percentage, the distribution percentages decreased for 96 PSAPS, and the distribution percentages increased for 31 PSAPS. Ms. Spears-Dean said that some PSAPS are not happy with the distribution percentage, and suggested that staff look what factors within the PSAPs drive this process, as well as other financial information that may offset this, such as the number of PSAP Grant awards, the amount of these awards, and which localities are receiving grant awards. However, Ms. Spears-Dean did say that staff has been educated by the numbers resulting from the new funding methodology and recent annual true-up process. Mr. Stewart commented that it is appropriate for staff and the Board to look at this process from time to time. Mr. Woltz asked, "How many PSAPs based on this presentation will have a decrease in funding?" Ms. Spears-Dean said she did not have this information, but would report back to the Board at its next meeting. Mr. Shumate said that staff needs to make sure to educate the PSAPs on the funding methodology. The concern right now is that for a PSAP to get more dollars, another PSAP has to get fewer dollars. Mr. Stewart asked what would help. He also added that staff should look at the percentages and look at what was happening in those areas, i.e., the trends, and what was the total dollars invested. Mr. Stewart asked for more comments, and there were none.

8. NG9-1-1 AND HOSTED SERVICES PILOT PROJECTS

Mr. Steve Marzolf addressed the Board, and informed them that staff has received an allocation for Next Generation from the Governor's office. At the recommendation of the Board, the General Assembly said that the appropriation would be for no more than \$1,000,000.00 a year, and must be approved from the Board before spending. Mr. Marzolf informed the Board that staff is now ready to start a couple of the projects which includes a Hosted NG9-1-1 routing project for three Southside PSAPs (Martinsville-Henry, Franklin, and Patrick), and 9-1-1 Hosted CPE Services with Dickenson, Wise and Norton. Mr. Marzolf said that the projects may potentially provide the statewide solutions. The system would be available for any PSAP as the infrastructure will be in place. Mr. Marzolf is asking for the authority to spend the \$1,000,000.00 appropriation that is earmarked for this purpose, and reminded the Board that this money is not from the PSAP Grant Program and that the way it is set-up, it is recurring, and that the

Division will get another \$1,000,000.00 next year. Mr. Marzolf said that staff is ready to consider cost estimates, and would like to move forward before the next Board Meeting. Staff is seeking authorization from the Board to spend the \$1,000,000 in the ISP budget for the Hosted Services Projects. Mr. Marzolf said that staff will be coming back to this Board with updates, and that these projects are part of the "Comprehensive Plan." Mr. Robert McAvoy asked what would be the impact on the project if the staff does not get approval today. Mr. Marzolf informed the Board that Dickenson, Wise and Norton are most vulnerable. They are in dyer straights right now, and that staff is working to get them through. Mr. Marzolf said that staff went through the FY 09 PSAP Grant applications and these localities were the most likely and most needy recipients. Mr. Stewart commented that this project is consistent with what is going on throughout the Commonwealth. Mr. Marzolf said that these are Pilots and they may fail; however, staff is looking at it as a learning experience. Mr. Pat Shumate said as a PSAP manager that they are starting to feel pressure from the elected officials, and a program like this may help to provide the public with the services they demand. Sheriff Newman said he concurs with the assessment of Mr. Shumate. Mr. Stewart said we need to figure out what we can and cannot do. Mr. Marzolf informed the Board that staff has not received a proposal yet. Mr. Woltz made the motion with the normal provision that the details be brought back to the Board. Mr. Shumate seconded the motion. All approved; **10-0-0**.

9. OLD BUSINESS

a. FY 09 PSAP Grant Award Amendment Requests:

Virginia Beach and Dickenson County--Ms. Spears-Dean reminded the Board that at the last Board Meeting two PSAPS asked for amendments of their requests. Virginia Beach- original grant request included an in-kind contribution in lieu of a local match. The PSAP scaled back the personnel recruitment and retention project. The revised request is for a grant award of \$120,000 with a required local match of \$30,000. Total project costs are \$150,000.00. Staff is recommending approval. Mr. Stewart asked for a discussion on the recommendation. Mr. Woltz requested as a follow-up from last time, that staff be involved in the process. Mr. Stewart asked for other comments. Mr. Shumate said that this is a very valid concern within the state. Mr. Stewart asked for a motion for approval. Ms. Denise Smith made a motion to approve the amendment, and Mr. Phil Heins seconded the motion. All approved; **9-0-0** (Mr. David Von Moll left).

Dickenson County – Request is to waive the required local match of \$37,500 and consider the CPE replacement project as part of the Wise and Norton Regional Initiative. All three localities will be participating in a pilot project for hosted CPE services. The adjusted grant award for this project would be \$450,000. Staff is recommending that the grant award for this project be \$450,000 with no local match. Any additional funding needed outside of the grant, would be obtained from the NG 9-1-1 earmark for the Hosted CPE Pilot Project. Mr. Stewart called for the motion. Sheriff Newman made a motion to approve the recommendation, and Mr. Woltz seconded the motion. All approved; **9-0-0**.

b. FY 09 PSAP Grant Funding Request Appeal:

(Roanoke County): Mr. Pat Shumate addressed the Board to talk about the regional grant application that several counties have put together to request Pictometry. Mr. Shumate said that Pictometry will enhance the PSAPs' capabilities to provide information regarding location, such as to better identify buildings, markers, callers, and also to help with surveillance. Pictometry will also give PSAPs the ability to measure heights of buildings, etc. The regions involved in this joint effort are Roanoke County, Roanoke City, Montgomery County, Town of Vinton, City of Salem, Town of Blacksburg, and Town of Christiansburg. Mr. Shumate informed the Board that Mike Crockett is here to speak on this request for the Board to consider addressing the issue of adding Pictometry as necessary equipment for PSAPs, and thus a part of Wireless Enhancement Program.

Mike Crockett addressed the Board, and passed out some pictures of what his locality has been using Pictometry for over a year. (See handout). Mr. Crockett said that Pictometry allows the emergency personnel to visually see what is going on. It allows them to locate a caller and get immediate attention to the area. Mr. Bob Pearsall addressed the Board also in support of Pictometry. Mr. Stewart asked if any other PSAPS in the state of Virginia are using Pictometry. Mr. Shumate said no, and Mr. Woltz asked how Roanoke City was able to obtain Pictometry. Mike Crockett said they purchased it on their own. Ms. Spears-Dean gave some back ground as to why this is being presented. The PSAP Grant Committee did not recommend this project for funding. And, the Wireless Service Board denied a grant submission for Pictometry at its last Board Meeting in January, as it is not included in the current PSAP Grant Priorities. So, that is why the regions are asking for the Board to revisit their request. Ms. Spears-Dean said that the Board's Legal Representative had commented that approving this type of request could be precedent setting. Mr. Shumate stated that the regions merely want to set precedence that Pictometry is a valuable tool for E911. Captain Furlough said he thinks it is a fantastic tool, but also thinks it is outside of the Board's scope. Mr. Robert McAvoy agreed with Captain Furlough, and added that he thought that it crosses the bounds of Wireless, and asked if this is really within the guidelines of what is mandated.

Ms. Spears-Dean reminded the Board that the Committee recommended that it not be funded. Ms. Spears-Dean asked if the Chair would like to entertain the Grant Committee's comment. Mr. Stewart answered yes, and Bill Agee addressed the Board on the Committee's behalf. Mr. Agee said that the Committee thought that Pictometry was more of an Emergency Management tool and not on the E911 Wireless side. Also, the Committee did not want to set precedence.

Mr. Wolf said he thought the state should take a look at it, as it is wonderful technology; however, it should not be funded by E911. Mr. Woltz said he would not be in favor for paying for it through the Wireless 911 fund. Ms. Linda Cage commented that from a PSAP Manager's point of view, it would be beneficial for these areas to do this, even though it may not be good for her area. Ms. Cage said that she is in favor of adopting Pictometry into the guidelines for equipment enhancements. Mr. Stewart added that he does not see anything different from this approach if you look at it from a Next Generation tool-set. Mr. Stewart thinks it is related to the experience and that the outcome benefits the citizens in Virginia. He thinks it has useful potential. Mr. Stewart suggested maybe looking towards Next Generation to add Pictometry. Mr. Agee reiterated as to what the Committee's concerns were. However, Mr. Agee stated that thinks Pictometry is a higher level version of the digital Orthophotography. Ms. Spears-Dean said that these discussions will be taking place in the PSAP Grant Committee meetings to be held April 9th and 10th, and Pictometry would be discussed as part of the "Enhancement Program."

Mr. Stewart called for a motion for a motion regarding the Pictometry funding request. Ms. Linda Cage made the motion for the Board to approve the request to fund pictometry and for the PSAP Grant Committee to look at Pictometry as Next Generation. Mr. Phil Heins seconded the motion. The motion passed; **4-1-3** (Cage, Smith, Heins, and Newman voting yes, and Woltz, McAvoy and Furlough voting no, with Shumate abstaining, and Mr. Stewart not voting).

10. NEW BUSINESS

CMRS Committee Report: Mr. Spears-Dean informed the Board that the CMRS Committee met before this Board meeting and would like the Board to approve its recommendation. Mr. Shumate made a motion to approve the Committee's recommendation, and Captain Furlough seconded the motion. The motion was approved; **9-0-0**.

Public Comment: Mr. Stewart asked the Board and the public if they had comments they would like to make. Mr. Bill Agee addressed the Board and said he would like the Board to look at the Communication Use and Sales Tax Reform Act and its affect throughout the Commonwealth. What he is seeing is that the money is not going to 911. Mr. Woltz commented that he would recommend that Mr. Agee and the localities take their concerns to their CAOs in their localities rather than to E911 Wireless Service Board since the Board does not have jurisdiction. Mr. Shumate commented that the primary concern is that when the localities did get their E911 money based on their surcharge the counties had to subsidize it anyway. Mr. Stewart said he agrees with Mr. Woltz, and to leave it to the local associations to review the Communications Use and Sales Tax Act. Mr. Stewart recommended that Mr. Agee talk with Senator Stolle.

Mr. Stewart asked if there were any more comments or questions. Ms. Spears-Dean recapped to the Board that the grant request for Wise, Dickenson and Norton requires no matching funds.

11. ADJOURN MEETING OF THE BOARD

Mr. Stewart thanked everybody for coming, and asked for any questions, and there were none. Mr. Stewart called for a motion to adjourn the Board meeting. Mr. Woltz made a motion to adjourn the Board meeting, and Sheriff Newman seconded the motion; all approved 9-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 12:02.

Respectfully Submitted:

Terry D. Mayo

(Date)